

**TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD – PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Regarding Ordinance Expanding the Additional Tax Exemption Available for Totally**  
**Disabled Veterans**  
**OCTOBER 14, 2014 6:30 p.m.**

Meeting started at 6:34 p.m.

President Slifka: We are going to call the 6:30 public hearing to order. This is regarding an ordinance expanding the additional tax exemption available for totally disabled veterans. Have a rollcall, please. Ms. Labrot?

Councilors Barnes, Cantor, Captain, Davidoff, Hall, Kindall and Slifka were present.

Councilors Casperson and Doar were absent.

President Slifka: Mr. Alair, welcome.

Mr. Alair: Good evening. You have before you an ordinance tonight that implements a new State law, which by local option, by adoption of an ordinance by you, allows us to provide an additional property tax exemption for veterans over and above the exemption that we are currently allowed to provide. It is very narrow. It only applies to veterans who are 100-percent disabled, who meet an income eligibility threshold. I am told that we have 1 person in town who would qualify based on current applications that we have, and that person would save an additional \$336.33 in tax by implementing this order.

President Slifka: I think you have anticipated every possible question... one could ask about that. Just if you could clarify for the record, because I did read about another community locally adopting this recently, just the fact that this is totally 100-percent written by the State. We don't have any authority to increase the amount at all, increase the qualification measures to expand it beyond this one individual with whom we will give a very meager benefit to if we happen to pass this.

Mr. Alair: That is correct for the government students in the audience. The way this works is the State is the sovereign, and we only get to do what the sovereign lets us do, and this is what they have let us do.

President Slifka: We can choose to do it or not, but we can't choose the amount or who qualifies for it?

Mr. Alair: Correct.

President Slifka: Anybody have any questions or anything? And I don't believe anybody has signed up for this. We've a number of amateur reporters in the audience, but, okay, nobody has signed up. Anybody who did not sign up wish to speak to this item? Okay. If there is nothing further, then we will close the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing closed at 6:37 p.m.



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Essie S. Labrot  
Town/Council Clerk